

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

In re: Gary D. Jerdee et al. : Art Unit:
: Examiner:
Date filed: May 10, 2001 :
: Docket No.: 71163-02
Serial No.: : Date: May 10, 2001

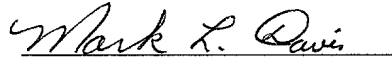
Title: Polymeric Based Carpet

Box PATENT APPLICATION
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 CFR 1.10

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and any documents referred to herein as being enclosed herewith, is/are on the date shown below, being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: May 10, 2001


Mark L. Davis

EJ636808246US

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**Preliminary Amendment
Under 37 CFR §1.115**

Sir,

In the above identified patent application please enter the following amendments to the title, specification and claims before determining the appropriate application fee.

Enclosed herewith are:

- (1) Copy of the Declaration from the parent application;
- (2) Information Disclosure Statement and cover sheet;
- (3) Copy of Appointment of Associate Attorney filed in parent application; and
- (4) Copy of Change in Correspondence Address filed in parent application;

This preliminary amendment is arranged as follows:

Page 2 is the amended paragraph in clean form;

Pages 2- 4 are the claims in clean form; and

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Page 5 contains the Remarks portion of this preliminary amendment.

In the Title

Please delete "POLYMERIC BASED CARPET" and insert -- METHOD FOR MAKING A POLYMERIC BASED CARPET-- therefor.

In the specification:

On the first line of the specification please insert -- This application is a divisional of the copending US application having US Serial No. 09/252,599 filed February 16, 1999, the entire disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference, and claims benefit to the same under 35 U.S.C. § 120.--

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1-8 without prejudice.

The clean copy of claims which follow are:

- ☒ all the claims pending in the case after amendment; or
- ☐ only those claims which have been requested to be amended.

CLEAN COPY OF NEW PARAGRAPH FOR THE SPECIFICATION

This application is a divisional of the copending US application having US Serial No. 09/252,599 filed February 16, 1999, the entire disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference, and claims benefit to the same under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

CLEAN COPY OF CLAIMS

9. A method of making a carpet, the carpet comprising a tufted primary backing with a primary backing and tufts of carpet fibers penetrating a bottom surface of the primary

backing and protruding from a top surface of the primary backing; a secondary backing material; and an adhesive material binding an upper surface of the secondary backing material to the bottom surface of the tufted primary backing; the carpet fibers, primary backing material and secondary backing material being selected from the group consisting of polypropylene, polyester, acrylics, polyethylene, polyamide, nylon, wool, cotton, rayon and combinations thereof and the adhesive material comprising an amorphous polyethylene copolymer selected from the group consisting of ethylene methyl acrylate and ethylene normal butyl acrylate; the method comprising the steps of:

- a) extruding a heated sheet of the adhesive material; and
- b) continuously fusing together in a two roll nip the upper surface of the secondary backing and the bottom surface of the tufted primary backing with the heated sheet.

10. A method according to claim 9 wherein the two roll nip comprises a hard roll and a soft roll.
11. A method according to claim 10 wherein the soft roll has a diameter of from 4 to 20 inches and a hardness of from 5 to 100 shore D.
12. A method according to claim 10 wherein the soft roll is comprised of rubber.
13. A method according to claim 10 wherein the hard roll is a cooled metal chill roll capable of maintaining a temperature below 120°F.
14. A method according to claim 11 wherein the two roll nip has pressure between 20 and 200 pounds per linear inch.
15. A method of using at least one of ethylene methyl acrylate copolymer and ethylene normal butyl acrylate copolymer to manufacture a carpet, the carpet comprising a tufted primary backing with a primary backing and tufts of carpet fibers penetrating a bottom surface of the primary backing and protruding from a top surface of the primary backing; a secondary backing material; and an adhesive material binding an upper surface of the secondary backing material to the bottom surface of the tufted primary backing; the carpet fibers, primary backing material and secondary backing material being selected from the group consisting of polypropylene, polyester, acrylics, polyethylene, polyamide, nylon, wool, cotton, rayon and combinations thereof and the adhesive material comprising an

amorphous polyethylene copolymer selected from the group consisting of ethylene methyl acrylate and ethylene normal butyl acrylate; the method comprising the steps of:

- a) extruding a heated sheet of the adhesive material; and
- b) continuously fusing together in a two roll nip the upper surface of the secondary backing and the bottom surface of the tufted primary backing with the heated sheet.

16. A method according to claim 15 wherein the two roll nip comprises a hard roll and a soft roll.
17. A method according to claim 16 wherein the soft roll has a diameter of from 4 to 20 inches and a hardness of from 5 to 100 shore D.
18. A method according to claim 16 wherein the soft roll is comprised of rubber.
19. A method according to claim 16 wherein the hard roll is a cooled metal chill roll capable of maintaining a temperature below 120°F.
20. A method according to claim 17 wherein the two roll nip has pressure between 20 and 200 pounds per linear inch.
21. A method of recycling a carpet, the carpet comprising a tufted primary backing with a primary backing and tufts of carpet fibers penetrating a bottom surface of the primary backing and protruding from a top surface of the primary backing; a secondary backing material; and an extruded adhesive material or a coextruded blend of two or more extruded adhesive materials binding an upper surface of the secondary backing material to the bottom surface of the primary backing; the carpet fibers, primary backing material and secondary backing material being selected from the group consisting of polypropylene, polyester, acrylics, polyethylene, polyamide, nylon, wool, cotton, rayon and combinations thereof and the adhesive material comprising an amorphous polyethylene copolymer selected from the group consisting of ethylene methyl acrylate and ethylene normal butyl acrylate; the method comprising the step of melting the carpet to obtain an extrudate feedstock.

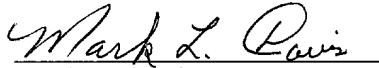
REMARKS

Claims 9-21 are in the case and presented for consideration.

Claims 1-8 have been cancelled.

Claims 9-21 were subject to a requirement for restriction in the parent application, paper no. 4, mailed August 1, 2000 and were cancelled without prejudice pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.141. Applicants are now presenting these claim for examination and prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,



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